

TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ATTORNEYS

8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100 Houston, Texas 77024 Bus: (713) 468-8880 Fax: (713) 468-8883



То:	Examiner Kevin Kim	From:	Fred G. Pruner, Jr.
Company:	U.S. Patent & Trademark Office	Dates	May 7, 2003
Fax:	(703) 872-9315	Pages	3 (including coversheet)
Your Re:	09/474,359	Our Res	ITL0294US (P7827)
Urgent	For Review Please Co	mment [☐ Please Reply ☐ Confirm Receipt

MESSAGE:

Applicant: Serial No.

Jeff C. Morriss 09/474,359

Filing Date: December 29, 1999

Skew Correction Circuit

1. Request for Reconsideration

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Official

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant:

Jeff C. Morriss

Art Unit:

2634

Serial No.:

09/474,359

§ § 1

Examiner: Kevin Kim

Filed:

December 29, 1999

8

Title:

Skew Correction Circuit

Docket No.

ITL.0294US (P7827)

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Dear Sir:

In a Final Office Action mailed on April 30, 2003, the Examiner maintained the § 103 rejections of claims 7-9, 13-15 and 19. The Examiner states, "Applicant's arguments fail to address such combination." Final Office Action, 2. However, Applicant has no duty to rebut a case of obviousness when the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. More specifically, the Examiner must specifically cite some language in the prior art showing the motivation or suggestion to combine the three references in the manner set forth by the Examiner. Ex parte Gambogi, 62 USPQ2d 1209, 1212 (Bd. Pat. App. & Int. 2001); In re Rijckaert, 28 USPQ2d 1955, 1957 (Fed. Cir. 1993); M.P.E.P. § 2143. Because the Examiner has failed to show any specific support for the suggestion or motivation to combine these references, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. Thus, reconsideration of the § 103 rejections for at least this reason is requested.

Additionally, a prima facie case of obviousness is not established for the reason that the Examiner fails to show where any of the references teaches the first circuit of independent claim

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1 or the regulation of a timing relationship between a data bit and a second strobe signal based on the degree of skew of independent claim 13. The Examiner still fails to show where any of the cited references teaches the first circuit of claim 1 or the regulating of claim 13. Therefore, for at least this additional, independent reason, the Examiner fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness for claims 7-9, 13-15 and 19.

Thus, for at least the reasons set forth above, withdrawal of the § 103 rejections is requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0294US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 7, 2003

Fred G Pruner, Jr., Res. No. 40,779

TROR FRUNER & HU, P.C.

8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100

Houston, Texas 77024 (713) 468-8880 [Phone]

(713) 468-8883 [Fax]